

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TIPPECANOE COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD HELD JUNE 13, 1975

Minutes of  
June 4th, 1975  
Meeting

A special called meeting of the Tippecanoe County Drainage Board was held on Friday, June 13, 1975 at 11:00 a.m., in the County Council Room with the following members present: Robert F. Fields, William Vanderveen and Bruce Osborn along with Robert L. Martin and Gladys Ridder.

Robert Fields opened the special called meeting of the George Ilgenfritz ditch by asking the Surveyor to read the minutes of the June 4th, 1975 meeting and the letter from Richard H. Smith. In Mr. Smith's letter he had accused the Board of intentionally neglecting a problem on the George Ilgenfritz ditch which caused extensive flooding on his land. With such accusation facing them, Mr. Osborn asked the Secretary to set up a special meeting with all of those people involved in the Ilgenfritz watershed. In that was everyone would have a voice and not just a few.

Upon motion of Robert Fields, seconded by Bruce Osborn and made unanimous by William Vanderveen the minutes were approved as read.

Those in attendance were: Charles I. Kenny, Jr., Robert C. Lahrman, farmer for Mary Kerkhoff and Ruth Stewart Farms, Richard H. Smith, Sarah N. Streitelmeier, Louis P. Vaughan, Harold Boesch for Helen Thompson Farm, Lewis Jay Beeler, Harlan Parr, Bob Peabody for Kirkpatrick Farm, Mr. and Mrs. James Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. Merrill R. Schrock, Robert McCabe, Art Lorentsen, Alvin Pilotte and Aloha Lorentsen.

Mr. Pilotte spoke at great length about the surface water from the Ilgenfritz watershed. Over thirty years ago this surface water was diverted through a new open cut channel so that it now runs entirely through the Ilgenfritz ditch. He also said that Mr. Smith had many huge willows on his portion of the ditch that he had neglected to remove and caused a part of his own problems. Mr. Pilotte was not willing to see the extension that is only about four feet deep, dredged to carry more water onto his farm. That same addition of water when carried on downstream would end up at a bridge that cannot carry the present flow of water.

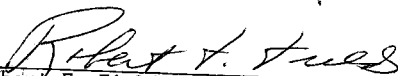
Mrs. Streitelmeier showed the Board pictures of her yard where the overflow from Mr. Smith's farm washed out her road and filled her backyard with silt.


Bub Kenny said he too could show pictures of flooding and silt deposit at the lower end of the ditch. Both Mr. Kenny and Mr. Lahrman said they were not willing to see any more water diverted their way for they had more than they could handle now.

After quite a bit of heated discussion by those present, Robert Fields ask those present if they would like the Board to vacate the ditch and turn it back over to them to do with as they pleased. No one was willing to see this happen so the matter was dropped.

Mr. Osborn said it was obvious nothing was going to be accomplished in this hearing and because the County Attorney was not present (through no fault of his) to answer some of the legal questions, he would move that this meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Robert Fields and made unanimous by William Vanderveen.

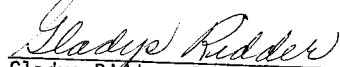
SPECIAL  
Ilgenfritz  
Hearing

  
Robert F. Fields, Chairman

  
William Vanderveen, Vice Chairman

  
Bruce Osborn, Board Member

ATTEST:

  
Gladys Ridder, Exec. Secretary

The following two letters are the result of the above meeting.

Lafayette, Indiana  
June 17, 1975

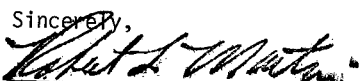
RE: Ilgenfritz Ditch

Dear Landowner,

I am writing this letter in order that you may be informed as to the action taken by the Tippecanoe County Drainage Board at the meeting held on June 4, 1975.

It was brought out at the meeting that to perform any kind of maintenance at this time on the outlet of the Ilgenfritz Ditch would most likely do some damage to properties located further downstream, especially those properties located on the Dismal Creek Ditch.

Since Dismal Creek Ditch is not presently established as a part of the legal drainage system of Tippecanoe County, it was recommended that those owners affected by it's condition take steps to have it established as part of the legal system. Until this situation is taken care of, I will not undertake any cleaning or deepening of the Ilgenfritz Ditch. If you have any questions regarding this please feel free to call the Tippecanoe County Surveyor's Office.

Sincerely,  
  
Robert L. Martin, L.S.  
Tippecanoe County Surveyor

RLM/gr

June 13th, 1975 meeting continued

Lafayette, Indiana  
June 17, 1975

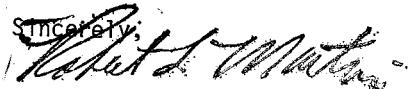
RE: S. W. Elliott ditch

Dear Landowner,

This report is to inform you as an interested landowner on that part of the S. W. Elliott Ditch which is the main tile branch, that after hearing testimony and seeing evidence that there is a real need to take steps to eliminate the pond on Mr. Richard H. Smith's property and after due consideration, it was recommended to the Drainage Board by the County Surveyor that the tile portion of the main ditch be changed in classification from one in need of periodic maintenance to one in need of reconstruction.

It should be made into an open ditch rather than tile. If this should be done the costs of reconstruction would be based on an assessment determined by benefits and damages to the various tracts involved.

Should you have any questions concerning this, please feel free to call or write the Tippecanoe County Surveyor.

Sincerely,  
  
Robert L. Martin, L.S.  
Tippecanoe County Surveyor

RLM/gr